

APPROVED: Meeting No. 27-91

ATTEST: *Sharon A. Gran*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
Meeting No. 25-91

June 4, 1991

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in Worksession in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, Maryland Avenue at Vinson Street, Rockville, Maryland, on June 4, 1991, at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Douglas M. Duncan

Councilmember James F. Coyle

Councilmember Viola D. Hovsepian

Councilmember James T. Marrinan

Councilmember David Robbins

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer, Assistant City Manager Rick Kuckkahn and City Clerk Sharon Gran.

Re: FY92 Operating Budget and
FY92-97 Capital Improvements
Program - Outside Agency
Requests and Wish List; Final
Decisions

Redgate Improvements

The Finance Director responded to an earlier question posed by Mayor Duncan regarding the Redgate Golf Course debt service. It was noted that the original concept was for a 36-hole golf course, and, when it was decided that the second 18-hole course would not be built, this excess land was to be sold in order to retire the debt. Because of the low interest rate on the debt, it was determined that the City should not retire the debt, but continue to make the staggered payments. In the spring of 1985, it was recommended that the General Fund be responsible for the debt until fully retired.

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It was decided that, in order to comply with the 1985 resolution, beginning in FY92, the General Fund would transfer funds annually to the debt service fund to pay the annual installment for the Redgate Golf Course improvements. It was also agreed that there would be budgeted an additional transfer from the Golf Course Fund to the CIP Fund totalling \$334,000 for repayment of the Golf Course capital expenditures between 1989 and 1991.

Outside Agency Requests

The City Manager commented that the activity level was lower this year for outside agency requests.

Head Injury Rehabilitation and Referral Service

Regarding the request by Head Injury Rehabilitation and Referral Service which is not recommended for funding, Councilmember Coyle asked that a communication be forwarded to the County and State to reinforce the importance of public awareness and education as a means to minimize head injuries.

Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation Ltd.

It is not recommended that Peerless Rockville's request for \$10,000 in funding be granted at this time. However, it was agreed that if, during FY92, Peerless can provide documentation for an exhibit with a request not to exceed \$5,000, the Mayor and Council would review the request, and, if approved, funding would be provided from the Targets of Opportunity account.

Rockville Arts Place

Although it has been recommended that \$65,000 rather than the requested \$75,000 be budgeted for Rockville Arts Place, Mayor Duncan expressed concern with a cutback at this time given the lack of funding forthcoming from the County and State.

Additions to Proposed Budget

The following expenditures were recommended in addition to those set forth in

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the City Manager's proposed budget:

- o Hispanics United for Rockville. An additional \$6,600 is recommended for the purchase of two IBM personal computers, an overhead projector, a laser printer and software. The total of \$9,600 will be allocated from the Property Management Fund.

- o Rockville Consortium for Science - \$3,180.

- o Rockville Emergency Assistance Program - \$10,000. This brings the total REAP funding for FY92 to \$30,000.

- o Redgate Debt Service - \$70,407. This addition is consistent with the earlier discussion regarding the payment of the debt service from the General Fund.

- o National Recreation and Parks Conference - \$50,000. This is a totally reimbursable expenditure; thus \$50,000 in additional revenue is also proposed.

- o Tuesday Night (Carnation) Supper Club - \$18,200. This amount will be totally recovered in costs charged to the seniors for the dinners.

- o Home Health Care for the Elderly - \$10,000 for a total of \$30,000.

- o Rockville Arts Place - \$10,000 for a total of \$75,000.

The following **revenues** were proposed to fund the above increased expenditures:

- o Animal licenses. An increase of \$3, from \$7 to \$10 per animal, with a portion to be rebated to veterinarians for collecting the fee.

- o Parking tickets. An increase from \$20 to \$25 for the basic parking violations and an increase from \$20 to \$50 for violations of handicapped parking regulations.

- o Fingerprinting. Residents will continue to receive this service free of charge; however, there will be a fee for fingerprinting of non-residents. Staff will draft a policy to exempt certain groups, such as non-resident coaches of youth sports, from this fee. Councilmember Marrinan requested that there be an analysis of the costs for fingerprinting non-residents.

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Capital Improvements Program

Maple Avenue Sidewalk/Veirs Mill Road Sidewalk Enhancement. Both of these projects will be funded in FY92.

Lincoln Park Improvements Project. Mayor Duncan requested more detailed information regarding this project, and it was suggested by staff that perhaps more creative ideas could be generated by consulting with outside sources.

Maryland Avenue Sidewalk Project. Discussion ensued regarding the commencement of construction of this sidewalk. It was suggested by Mayor Duncan that the portion between Monument and Falls could be done next year while Councilmember Hovsepian suggested that the portion between Falls and S. Adams would facilitate access to Town Center. Funding for construction from S. Adams Street to Falls Road would be budgeted next fiscal year along with design of the portion of the sidewalk from S. Adams Street to S. Washington Street contingent upon the Traffic Engineer meeting with adjacent neighbors to discuss their concerns. This proposal should be posed in the nature of a safety issue for the children attending Julius West.

Mayor Duncan requested that the Traffic Engineer advise when he would be meeting with these individuals and recommended that the neighbors be asked to attend a Traffic and Transportation Commission meeting at which this issue would be discussed.

Beall Avenue Sidewalk. Staff noted that there would be a commitment to complete this project in FY92.

Other Issues

Councilmember Coyle indicated there is a need to develop a specific strategic plan for affordable housing in the City for the next ten years. He will meet with the City Manager to formulate a proposal for further review by the Mayor and Council. Staff will be requested to cost out the proposal.

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In response to Councilmember Coyle's question regarding the status of the proposal for a City fire and rescue services operation, the Finance Director responded that a preliminary financial background has been completed and a report will be forwarded in the near future.

With respect to the senior traffic aides, Councilmember Marrinan was advised that the prospectus has been completed and that this group of individuals could be used to help in the City's special events. There are start-up costs involved for items such as the purchase of uniforms.

Regarding uniforms, Councilmember Coyle asked if the City's Police Officers could wear different uniforms for special events. Chief Treschuk noted that it could be handled in the existing budget.

As to whether consideration has been given to the City going back to motorized patrols, Mayor Duncan commented that Chief Treschuk and the City Manager should provide a recommendation.

Finally, Mayor Duncan requested that a breakdown of the average tax bill to homeowners be provided. It was noted by the Finance Director that there will be an increase of approximately 8% for homeowners while the overall increase for businesses and residences is approximately 6.1%.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m., to convene again in General Session at 7:30 p.m. on June 10, 1991, or at the call of the Mayor.